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Remarks

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application in the Office

Action dated August 2, 2005. Claims 60, 63, 65-69, 74, 78-79, 87, 88, 91-94, 188, 206, 225, 226

and 228 stand rejected. Claims 225, 226 and 228 are withdrawn from consideration. Upon entry

of this amendment, claims 188 and 206 are canceled and claims 60, 63, 65-69, 74, 78-79, 87, 88,

and 91-94 are pending. Applicants address concerns presented in the Office Action in the

comments below.

I. Amended Claims

Claims 60, 63, 65-69, 74, 78-79, 87, 88, 91-94, 188 and 206 stand rejected under 35

U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 188 and 206 have been canceled. Any basis for rejection

for the remaining pending claims has been obviated with the present amendment.

II. <u>Title</u>

The title has been amended to more clearly reflect the invention now recited in the pending

claims.

III. Abstract

The Abstract has been replaced by a new Abstract provided herewith as well as on a

separate sheet.

IV. Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement has been filed herewith under 1.97(c)(2) and is

accompanied by the fee set forth in §1.17(p) of \$180.00. It is respectfully requested that the

disclosed references be made of record in the above-identified application and that they be given

careful consideration.

V. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments overcome and/or obviate any basis for

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rejecting the claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all the pending claims.

December 30, 2005 Customer No. 35467 bioMerieux, Inc. 100 Rodolphe Street Durham, NC 27712 Respectfully submitted,

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